

Danilo Freire

Political Theory Project
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Academic Appointments

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Political Theory Project, Brown University, 2018–present.

Education

PhD in Political Economy, King's College London, 2018.

Thesis: *Essays on Political and Criminal Violence*. Supervisors: [David Skarbek](#) (Brown University) & [Gabriel Leon](#) (KCL). Examination Committee: [Toke Aidt](#) (University of Cambridge) & [Graham Denyer Willis](#) (University of Cambridge).

MA in International Relations, The Graduate Institute Geneva, 2014.

MA in Political Science, University of São Paulo, 2011.

BA in Social Sciences, University of São Paulo, 2007.

Research Interests

Substantive: Public Policy, Collective Action, Political Violence, Informal Governance, Brazilian Politics

Methodological: Computational Social Science, Impact Evaluation, Field Experiments, Meta-Analysis

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Freire, D. [Beasts of Prey or Rational Animals?: Private Governance in Brazil's Jogo do Bicho](#). *Latin American Perspectives*, 2019, 46(4), 230–244. Media coverage: [BBC Brazil](#).

Freire, D. [Evaluating the Effect of Homicide Prevention Strategies in São Paulo, Brazil: A Synthetic Control Approach](#). *Latin American Research Review*, 2018, 53(2), 231–249. Replication files. Media coverage: [Valor Econômico](#).

McDonnell, R., **Freire, D.** [prisonbrief: An R package that returns tidy data from the World Prison Brief website](#). *Journal of Open Source Software*, 2018, 3(22), 361.

Arbache, G., **Freire, D.**, Rodrigues, P. [Lack of Preferences, Political Trust and Education Levels: Alternative Explanations for Invalid Votes in Brazilian Elections](#). *Encuentro Latinoamericano*, 2015, 1(1), 29–50. Replication files.

Freire, D. [Between Ballot Boxes and Guns: The Competitiveness of the Executive Branch and Civil Wars, 1976–2000](#). *Revista Española de Ciencia Política*, 2014, 36, 33–60. Replication files.

Working Papers

Freire, D., Mignozzetti, U., Skarbek, D. [Institutional Design and Elite Support for Climate Policies: Evidence from Latin American Countries](#). Revise and resubmit, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*.

Freire, D., Galdino, M., Mignozzetti, U. [Bottom-Up Accountability and Public Service Provision: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Brazil](#). Revise and resubmit, *Research & Politics*.

McDonnell, R., Duarte, G., **Freire, D.** [congressbr: An R Package for Analysing Data from Brazil's Chamber of Deputies and Federal Senate](#). Revise and resubmit, *Latin American Research Review*.

Freire, D., Meadowcroft, J., Skarbek, D., Guerrero, E. [Deaths and Disappearances in the Pinochet Regime: A New Dataset](#). Under review.

Freire, D., Uzonyi, G. [What Drives State-Sponsored Violence? Evidence from Extreme Bounds Analysis and Ensemble Learning Methods](#). Under review.

Freire, D., Mignozzetti, U. Incentives in Preventive Health Care Provision: Zika in Brazil.

Skarbek, E., **Freire, D.**, Skarbek, D. Urban Politics of Reconstruction: Development Patterns after the Chicago Fire of 1871.

Freire, D., Cinelli, C. Using Sensitivity Analysis to Assess Omitted Variable Bias.

Freire, D.. Uncovering Causal Relations in Observational Data Using Machine Learning and Graphical Models.

Alptekin, H., **Freire, D.**, Mignozzetti, U., Roman, C. The Effect of Legislature Size on Distributive Politics: A Meta-Analysis.

Book Chapters

Skarbek, D., **Freire, D.** [Prison Gangs](#). In: Griffin, Hayden; Woodward, Vanessa (ed.). *Handbook of Corrections in the United States*. London: Routledge, 2017, 399–408.

Freire, D. [A Nova Gestão Pública e a Qualidade da Democracia \[The New Public Administration and the Quality of Democracy\]](#). In: Erkens, Rainer (ed.). *Nova Gestão Pública*. São Paulo: Instituto Friedrich Naumann, 2010, 9–15.

Other Publications

Freire, D. [Peering at Open Peer Review](#). *The Political Methodologist*, 2015, 23 (1), 6–11.

Freire, D. [Book Review: Causal Inference, Shaolin-Style: 'Mastering Metrics' by Joshua D. Angrist and Jörn-Steffen Pischke](#). *Brazilian Political Science Review*, 2015, 9 (3), 178–185.

Freire, D. [Entering the Underworld: Prison Gang Recruitment in São Paulo's Primeiro Comando da Capital](#). Geneva: Master's Degree Thesis in International Relations, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, 2014, 97p.

Freire, D. [Book Review: 'Why Nations Fail' by Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson](#). *Meridiano47*, 2013, 14 (135).

Freire, D. [Entre Urnas e Armas: A Competitividade do Executivo e as Guerras Civas, 1976-2000 \[Between Ballot Boxes and Guns: The Competitiveness of the Executive Branch and Civil Wars, 1976-2000\]](#). São Paulo: Master's Degree Thesis in Political Science, University of São Paulo, 2011, 204p. [Replication files](#).

Software

Freire, D., Mingardi, L., McDonnell, R. [pinochet](#). Data About the Victims of the Pinochet Regime, 1973-1990.

McDonnell, R., Duarte, G., **Freire, D.** [congressbr](#). Downloads, unpacks and tidies Legislative data from the Brazilian Federal Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

McDonnell, R., **Freire, D.** [prisonbrief](#). R package that returns tidy data from the World Prison Brief website.

Fellowships and Awards

Research Grant, Getulio Vargas Foundation, 2019. Joint with U. Mignozzetti and D. Skarbek (US\$ 64,000, matching grant).

Research Grant, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 2018. Joint with U. Mignozzetti and D. Skarbek (US\$ 64,000).

Google Social Impact Challenge Grant, 2017–2019. Joint with M. Galdino (principal investigator) and U. Mignozzetti (US\$ 300,000).

Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University, 2017–2018 (US\$ 5,000).

Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University, 2016–2017 (US\$ 5,000).

PhD Scholarship, Institute for Humane Studies, 2016–2017 (US\$ 1,500).

Graduate School International Research Studentship, King's College London, 2015–2018 (US\$ 58,000).

PhD Scholarship, Brazilian Ministry of Education, 2015–2018 (US\$ 76,000).

Scholarship for MA Studies, Brazilian Ministry of Education, 2009–2011.

Recent Presentations and Invited Talks

[Institutional Design and Elite Support for Climate Policies](#). APSA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2019; SPSA Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico (forthcoming).

Urban Politics of Reconstruction: Development Patterns after the Chicago Fire of 1871. Historical Political Economy Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 2019.

[Latin American Elites Favour Polycentric Governance in Climate Change Agreements](#). Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, 2019.

[What Drives State-Sponsored Violence?: Evidence from Extreme Bounds Analysis and Ensemble Learning Methods](#). Public Choice Society Annual Meeting, Louisville, 2019.

[Three Ideas from the Vienna, Virginia, and Bloomington Schools of Political Economy](#). Hayek Group Meeting, Friedrich Naumann Stiftung für die Freiheit and Prometheus – Das Freiheitsinstitut, Berlin, 2017.

[Beasts of Prey or Rational Animals?: Private Governance in Brazil's *Jogo do Bicho*](#). VI Oxbridge Conference on Brazilian Studies, University of Cambridge, 2017.

Teaching

Instructor, [POLS 1824W – Political Violence](#) (Undergraduate). Brown University, Fall 2019.

Instructor, [POLS 1600 – Political Research Methods](#) (Undergraduate). Brown University, Winter 2019. Student evaluation: 4.5/5.

Instructor, [Political Economy and Institutions](#) (Graduate). Centro de Estudios Superiores Online de Madrid Manuel Ayau (OMMA) and Universidad Francisco Marroquín, 2017. Student evaluation: 5/5.

Teaching Assistant, [Principles of Economics II – Macroeconomics](#) (Undergraduate). Professor Konstantinos Matakos, King's College London, Fall 2017.

Teaching Assistant, [Principles of Economics I – Microeconomics](#) (Undergraduate). Professor David Skarbek, King's College London, Winter 2017.

Skills

Software

R, Stata, Stan, JAGS, SPSS, Atlas.ti, git, HTML, Jekyll, \LaTeX .

Languages

Portuguese (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), German (intermediate), French (intermediate).

Selected Additional Training

Transparent and Open Social Science Research, University of California, Berkeley, 2017.

European Field Experiments Summer School, University of Palermo, 2017.

Text Analysis Using R, London School of Economics, 2017.

Data Science Specialisation, John Hopkins University on Coursera, 2015.

Modern Regression Analysis, IPSA Summer School, 2012.

Mixed Methods Design, IPSA Summer School, 2011.

Policies for Growth, World Bank Institute, 2011.

Service

Co-editor: *Leviathan*, University of São Paulo, 2012–2016.

Referee: *Latin American Research Review*, *Leviathan*, *Political Studies Review*, *Politikon*, Princeton University Press, *Revista Española de Ciencia Política*, *The Social Science Journal*, *Swiss Political Science Review*.

Memberships

American Economic Association

American Political Science Association

International Political Science Association

Society for Political Methodology

References

Toke Aidt. University Reader, Faculty of Economics, University of Cambridge. Email: toke.aidt@econ.cam.ac.uk.

Gabriel Leon. Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Economy, King's College London. Email: gabriel.leon@kcl.ac.uk.

John Meadowcroft. Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Economy, King's College London. Email: john.meadowcroft@kcl.ac.uk.

Umberto Mignozzetti. Assistant Professor, Institute of International Studies, Fundação Getúlio Vargas. Email: umberto.mignozzetti@fgv.br.

David Skarbek. Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and the Political Theory Project, Brown University. Email: david_skarbek@brown.edu.

Graham Denyer Willis. Senior Lecturer, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge. Email: gdw27@cam.ac.uk.